PC10917US

10/593999 IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 SEP 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No:

Not Yet Known

Applicant:

Peter Tandler et al.

Filed:

concurrently herewith

Title:

DEVICE FOR MONITORING THE LEVEL OF A CONTAINER

TC/A.U.: Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a form submitted herewith. A copy of the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a form, other than U.S. patents, is enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Reference DE3716135A1 is not in the English language, but an English abstract thereof is attached to the copy of the reference submitted herewith.

This reference and the other cited references were cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of this search report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609(a)iii, second paragraph.

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PATENT

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the abovereferenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a

(2) References

International Search Report German Search Report

Dated: September 25, 2006

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Amanda Kelly

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PTO/SB/08a (07-05) (TMB 07/2005) Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Complete if Known Not Yet Known **Application Number** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date concurrently herewith Peter Tandier et al. STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor (Use as many sheets as necessary) Art Unit **Examiner Name**

Attorney Docket No. PC10917US SHEET 1 of 1 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **Document Number** Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Name of Patentee or Examiner Cite Publication Date Relevant Passages or Relevant Number - Kind Code^{2 (if known)} No.1 Applicant of Cited Document Initials* (MM-DD-YYYY) Figures Appear US-3,603,925 09/07/1971 Hughes et al. 04/08/1969 US-3,437,771 Nusbaum US-4,020,481 04/26/1977 Nakagawa US-6,230,561 05/15/2001 Li US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Foreign Patent Document Name of Patentee or **Applicant of Cited** Passages or Relevant Examiner Cite **Publication Date** Country Code³ - Number⁴ - Kind Code⁵ (If known) No.1 T۴ Figures Appear Initials* (MM-DD-YYYY) Document 11/24/1988 DE 37 16 135 A1 (English Abstract Alfred Teves attached) **GmbH** Proeco, Inc. WO 93/03343 02/18/1993 Examiner Date

Signature

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.